## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## TWO ILLEGAL ALIEN DRUG DEALERS SENTENCED FOR COCAINE DISTRIBUTION

- Sold almost 17 kilograms of cocaine worth street value of \$1,700,000 - Two sentenced to 13 years collectively

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **ROGELIO OMAR SANTOS-MONTELONGO**, age 20, of 9512 Willow Wood Way, Louisville, Kentucky, in Jefferson County, and **GERARDO CASTRO-ACOSTA**, age 23, address unknown, **were sentenced** to 6 years and 6 months each in federal prison, in United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky, for conspiracy to possess and possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

Charles R. Simpson III, Judge, United States District Court, sentenced **Santos-Montelongo** to serve six years and six months, followed by five years of supervised release after incarceration, **Castro-Acosta** to serve six years and six months, followed by five years of supervised release after incarceration. A third defendant in this case, **Pedro Pacheco-Lopez**, is scheduled to be sentenced on March 20, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system**. Both defendants are illegal aliens who are subject to deportation after service of their sentences.

**Santos-Montelongo** and **Castro-Acosta** pled guilty and admitted that from on or about March 2, 2006, until on or about March 13, 2006, in Jefferson County, Kentucky, they knowingly conspired with each other and others to possess with the intent to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine, and that on or about March 13, 2006, they knowingly and intentionally possessed with the intent to distribute that cocaine.

On March 2, 2006, agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) purchased one kilogram of cocaine from **Santos-Montelongo** for \$20,000.00. On March 13, 2006, another purchase of cocaine was negotiated with **Santos-Montelongo**. Recorded calls were made during the negotiations to purchase another 16 kilograms of cocaine. The cocaine was delivered in two white drywall plaster buckets. **Santos-Montelongo** and **Castro-Acosta** unloaded the cocaine from the buckets and placed it on a table. At that point, DEA agents placed **Santos-Montelongo** and **Castro-Acosta** under arrest. The total 17 kilograms of cocaine purchased is worth at least \$1,700,000 at the street level.

After the delivery of the cocaine, a search warrant was executed at 6006 Cooper Chapel Road, the residence that **Santos-Montelongo** and **Castro-Acosta** left just before delivering the cocaine. **Pacheco-Lopez** was present at this residence, and he admitted to driving the "load truck" from Phoenix to Louisville. Agents discovered the load truck at the residence, with the drive shaft removed. Cocaine residue was discovered inside the drive shaft. The 16 kilograms of cocaine that **Santos-Montelongo** and **Castro-Acosta** delivered were consistent in shape with the cylindrical drive shaft.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Laura L. Hall, and it was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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